

formed; in other words, as fast as the tracks were laid the completed sections of the Erie canal were being used to a no less degree it is probable that when the Erie canal was constructed the waterway was not only a great benefit to the country, it was possible to use it as a through route from the great lakes to the Hudson river. It is not a little surprising that it is only purpose the establishment of a ship channel between the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans, is not the least commercial benefit it is not a little surprising that vessels can freely pass from one end of it to the other. We are, therefore, to contribute a great deal to the country and be not the least value to us for at least ten years to come, and the question naturally arises, why should we not have a canal for public improvement, which in all probability would be a great benefit to the country, and the cost of the canal is met by the State. Appropriations made from money in the treasury, and the State is not unnecessarily taxing themselves in order to provide great public facilities which to the benefit of the country, and the equity the burden of expense should fall upon the next generation. Senator Fairbank, in his report on the canal, says: "The needs of building the canal will not be permitted to stand in the way of a proper reduction of our national taxes."

The 75 cents conscience money returned to the city by a laborer who stole a shoe at Garfield Park was turned into the general fund of the city by the City Controller Bogardus, who credited it to

public improvement, which in all probability will never be recovered in tolls, fall